

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 044711
ORIGIN ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02 FEA-01 ACDA-07
CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
OES-06 DODE-00 /096 R

DRAFTED BY USERDA:AIA:MMCDONOUGH:JLB
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USERDA:AIA:MMCDONOUGH
OES/NET - L NOSENZO
T-NYE/MCGAFFIGAN
OES/NET/IM:M PROCHNIK
PM/NPO:GOPLINGER
S/P - J KAHAN
S/S-O:SESTEINER
EUR/RPE - A SENS

-----010306 083498 /73

P 010228Z FAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN PLUTONIUM AT EUROCHEMIC FACILITY IN
BELGIUM

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM THE
NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON:

2. THE INSTITUTE FOR ATOMENERGI AT KJELLER, NORWAY HAS
2956 GRAMS OF PLUTONIUM IN STORAGE AT EUROCHEMIC, MOL,
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BELGIUM. THE PLUTONIUM WAS RECOVERED AT EUROCHEMIC IN
1968 FROM THE SECOND FUEL LOADING OF THE HALDEN HEAVY
WATER COOLED REACTOR AND HAS BEEN IN STORAGE AT MOL SINCE
THAT TIME. THE FUEL WAS SUPPLIED BY THE U.S.

3. THE MOL REPROCESSING PLANT CEASED OPERATION IN JUNE

1974 AND EUROCHEMIC IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO REMOVE ALL PLUTONIUM FROM THE SITE. THE INSTITUTE HAS BEEN ASKED BY EUROCHEMIC TO REMOVE THEIR PLUTONIUM AND IT IS NOT INTERESTED IN TRANSFERRING THE MATERIAL TO NORWAY BECAUSE MORE STRINGENT PHYSICAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE INDUCED. THUS, THE INSTITUTE HAS BEEN TRYING

TO SELL THE MATERIAL IN EUROPE OR ALTERNATIVELY HAVE IT STORED AT ANOTHER LOCATION WITH NO SUCCESS THUS FAR.

4. THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY HAS NOW ASKED ERDA IF THE U.S. IS INTERESTED IN PURCHASING THE PLUTONIUM AND IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, WOULD ERDA BE WILLING TO STORE THE NORWEGIAN MATERIAL IN THE U.S. THE PLUTONIUM IS IN THE FORM OF PU02 AND THE PU-239 CONTENT IS ABOUT 81.7 PERCENT OF TOTAL PU.

5. EC BRUSSELS-REQUEST ERDA REP TO CONTACT EUROCHEMIC OFFICIALS TO (1) VERIFY THAT THE PLUTONIUM HAS TO BE TRANSFERRED AND WHY (2) DETERMINE WHAT THEY KNOW ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PLUTONIUM I.E., HAS ANYONE EXPRESSED ANY INTEREST IN PURCHASING THE MATERIAL AND IF SO, FOR WHAT PURPOSE AND PRICE AND (3) DETERMINE, IF ANY, ALTERNATE PLANS TO STORE SOMEWHERE ELSE.

6. OSLO-EMBASSY WELCOME TO COMMENT.

7. UPON RECEIPT OF ABOVE INFORMATION, ERDA WILL THEN EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASING OR STORING THE PLUTONIUM.

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, PLUTONIUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE044711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AIA:MMCDONOUGH:JLB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0435
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN ERDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2958046
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 970903
Subject: NORWEGIAN PLUTONIUM AT EUROCHEMIC FACILITY IN BELGIUM
TAGS: TECH, BE, NO, US
To: EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e61a28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009